(b) what are the names of these newspapers Periodicals alongwith their respective circulation ; and

(c) the number of applications from newspapers pending for clearance for the purpose as on the 30 August, 1993 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) The information is given below :

(i) No. of Newspapers/periodicals ... 261 renewed.

(ii) No. of fresh newspapers/periodicals .... 49 empanelled.

(b) The names and circulation figures of the newspapers/periodical are given in the Annexure [*See* Appendix CLXIX, Annexure No. 37].

(c) As on 30-8-1993, 40 application from newspapers were pending for renewal but out of these, rate contracts for 16 newspapers were renewed during the period September to November, 1993.

Newspapers/Magazines in Urdu Receiving Newsprint Quota

1515. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of newspapers/magazines in Urdu to which quota of newsprint was given during the year 1992-93 ; and

(b) what are the names of these newspapers/magazines alongwith the details of their circulation and the quantum of quota of newsprint given to each one of them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b) As per the records available with the office of the Registrar of Newspapers for India, 223 Urdu Newspapers/periodicals were issued Entitlement Certificate to import and purchase newsprint from scheduled indigenous mills during 1992-93. Their names, circulation figures and quantum of quota of newsprint allocated are given in the annexure. [*See* Appendix CLXIX, Annexure No. 38].

Commissioning of Six-Episode Serial in Violation of Norms

1516. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL : SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Doordarshan has recently commissioned a six-episode serial by M/s. Filmedia of Preet Vihar costing Rs. 12 lacs in violation of the norms laid down for the clearance and commissioning of serials to be telecast of Doordarshan ;

(b) if so, what are the considerations which weighed with Doordarshan to commission the serial in violation of the norms ;

(c) what action Government have taken in this matter and what policy Government propose to adopt in such cases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Setting up of a new press Commission

1517. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Federation of Working Journalists recently demanded the setting up of a new Press Commission to review the state of the Indian Press ;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ;